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In The Matter Of The Arbitration

between

New York City District Council of Carpenters
Pension Fund, New York City District Council of
Carpenters Welfare Fund, New York City
District Council of Carpenters Vacation Fund,
New York City District Council of Carpenters
Annuity Fund, New York City District Council
of Carpenters Apprenticeship, Journeyman
Retraining, Educational and Industry Fund,
New York City District Council of Carpenters
Charity Fund, United Brotherhood of Carpenters
and Joiners of America Fund and New York City
and Vicinity Joint Labor Management Cooperation
Trust Fund, by Michael J. Forde and Paul
O'Brien, Trustees

OPINION

AND

AWARD

(Funds)

-and-

B & A INTERIORS LTD.

(Employer)

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BEFORE: Robert Herzog, Esq.

B & A INTERIORS LTD. (hereinafter referred to as the
"Employer") and the District Council of New York City and Vicinity
of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America are
parties to Collective Bargaining Agreements providing for
arbitration of disputes before the undersigned Arbitrator as
Impartial Arbitrator, and in which the Employer has therein agreed,
for the duration of the Agreements, to pay contributions toward
employee benefit funds (hereinafter collectively referred to as the
"Funds"). The Funds, as beneficiary of the Collective Bargaining

Agreements, have standing before the Arbitrator. In accordance therewith, the Funds, by a January 17, 2007 Notice of Intention to Arbitrate, demanded arbitration. The Funds alleged the Employer failed to make sufficient benefit contributions to the Funds for the period of July 1, 2000 through March 31, 2006 as required by the Collective Bargaining Agreements.

A Notice of Hearing dated January 19, 2007 advised the Employer and the Funds that the arbitration hearing was scheduled for February 13, 2007. The Notice of Hearing was sent to the Employer by regular and certified mail. A United States Postal Service Certified Mail Return Receipt evidences delivery of the Notice of Hearing to the Employer.

On February 13, 2007, at the place and time designated by the January 19, 2007 Notice of Hearing, Steven Kasarda, Esq. appeared on behalf of the Funds. Despite the Employer having been sent notice of the proceeding and the claim against it, no appearance on its behalf was made. Also, no written, mutually agreed upon waiver by the parties to adjourn the proceeding, as required by the Collective Bargaining Agreements, was presented. The arbitration proceeded as a Default Hearing. Full opportunity was afforded the party present to be heard, to offer evidence, and to examine witnesses. The Funds thereupon presented their proofs to the Arbitrator.

The uncontroverted testimony and evidence established that:

- During the July 1, 2000 through March 31, 2006 period, the Employer was bound to Collective Bargaining Agreements with the District Council of New York City and Vicinity of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.
- The Collective Bargaining Agreements obligated the Employer to make certain payments to Fringe Benefit Trust Funds on behalf of all its carpenter employees pursuant to schedules set forth in the Agreement.
- The Collective Bargaining Agreements authorized the Funds to conduct audits of the Employer's books and records in order to verify that all the required contributions were made to each of the aforesaid Fringe Benefit Trust Funds maintained by the Funds.
- In accordance with this auditing provision, an accountant, employed by the Funds, and with the consent of the Employer, performed audits of the Employer's books and records.

The testimony of the Funds' auditor, Mr. Anthony Sgroi, established that the audit of the Employer's books and records uncovered delinquencies in the amount of contributions due the Funds during the period of July 1, 2000 through March 31, 2006. The testimony further revealed that a copy of the Audit Summary Report had been forwarded to the Employer. Thereafter, the Funds demanded payment by the Employer. When the Employer failed to comply with the payment demand, the Notice of Intent to Arbitrate issued.

Auditor Sgroi's testimony set forth the accounting method employed during the course of the audit and the computation of the amount of each alleged delinquency. The total amount of the delinquency and interest for the July 1, 2000 through March 31, 2006 period was fifteen thousand eight hundred eighty-four dollars and nine cents (\$15,884.09). The Funds requested an award for contributions owed, interest, liquidated damages, late payment interest, promotional fund assessment, audit and counsel fees, arbitration and court costs as provided for by the Collective Bargaining Agreements. Testimony computing these amounts was received into evidence.

AWARD

Based upon the substantial and credible evidence of the case as a whole:

1. B & A INTERIORS LTD. is delinquent in its Fringe Benefit payments due and owing to the Funds under the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreements;
2. B & A INTERIORS LTD. shall pay to the Funds forthwith the said delinquency amount, interest on said delinquency amount, liquidated damages, late payment interest, the promotional fund assessment, the Funds' audit and counsel's fees, the undersigned Arbitrator's fee, and all associated court costs in the following amounts:

Principal Due	\$ 10,492.71
Interest Due	5,391.38
Liquidated Damages	5,393.95
Late Payment Interest	432.02
Promotional Fund	37.56
Court Costs	350.00
Audit Costs	500.00
Attorney's Fee	1,500.00
Arbitrator's Fee	500.00
TOTAL	\$ 24,597.62

3. B & A INTERIORS LTD. shall pay to the District Council


Carpenters Benefit Funds the aggregate amount of twenty-four thousand five hundred ninety-seven dollars and sixty-two cents (\$24,597.62) with interest to accrue at the rate of 10% from the date of this Award.


Robert Herzog
Arbitrator

Dated: February 20, 2007

State of New York)
County of Rockland)

I, Robert Herzog, do hereby affirm upon my oath as Arbitrator that I am the individual described in and who executed this instrument, which is my Award.


Robert Herzog
Arbitrator

Dated: February 20, 2007

To: B & A INTERIORS LTD.
Attn: Alex Caperna, President
1556 62nd Street
Brooklyn, New York 11219

Steven Kasarda, Esq.
New York City District Council Carpenters Benefit Funds
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